

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION

‘**B**UT, Clive? Oh, Lou, Lou; how could you leave Clive in that terrible land?’

It was Grace who was speaking, in anguish, and she had drawn me aside from my father, who was so full of happiness at my return that he could scarcely endure me out of his sight. I had cabled from Vancouver to say that I was returning without Clive, in order to prepare her for my solitary arrival, but something had gone wrong with the message, and every one was shocked and disgusted to think that I had left my friend out there.

Grace was standing with our father at the great door of the Priory, to welcome us back, and she looked more beautiful than I had ever seen her. When I stepped out of the carriage and ran up the steps to greet them they saw that I was alone, but imagined that I had left Clive at the Rectory with his parents, and that he would be following me presently, to see his